

History Buff

I want to thank Dick, WB9PTC for the pictures he has donated to the history files of Field Day at the old Nike site. The pictures were taken when the buildings were still standing. With Dick are George Philbert, Ted Stiller and Dick Schlatterer.

Also thanks to Lester W9UPM for the original announcement of the clubs 14th annual stag QSO Party held at the Milwaukee Athletic Club, May 15, 1937. It was coordinated by Charle Meyer W9GVL. The dinner ticket sold for \$2.25 at the door and \$2.00 in advance. Just prior to the party, the U.S. Naval Communications reserve put on a recruiting party. The Navy was looking for a quota of 280 Wisconsin radio operators. To qualify you must be between 17 and 35, a licensed amateur or can copy 16 WPM and must be physically fit.

The following was listed as advantages of joining the reserve.

Two weeks cruising duty with pay, on a naval ship.

Pay on all active training duty under orders.

Training in naval radio and naval customs.

Opportunity to operate on exclusive naval frequencies.

Opportunity to wear the regulation Navy uniform.

Enlistment forms were mailed along with the MRAC QSO Party registration form. The actual enlistment was held at the U.S. Navy Recruiting office in the Main Post Office building. A Navy self addressed envelope was included with the Navy flier if you wanted to give advanced notice that you were planning to enlist.

The Navy estimated that there were 1200 licensed amateurs available in Wisconsin at this time.

Jim WB9LNU